

# CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

## A. The Background of the Study

Writing is one of the four language skills that the students should know when learning a language, it is very useful because it lets students express their personality and organize their thought but the reality shows that the students who have learned it from primary up to the intermediate level are not successful as the government has expected from them.

Writing as one of the four language skills is a part of Junior High School in which the student is expected to be able to write descriptive text. According to Fauzi (2012:34) of the curriculum based on government regulation in English language teaching curriculum through standard competence (Ministry of Education regulation No. 23 year 2006), students of Junior High School are recommended to be able to write descriptive text.

Based on the standard competences in the syllabus of the second year students of Junior High School called Educational Unit-oriented Curriculum (Kurikulum Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan / KTSP) students are expected to be able to write simple paragraph of recount, descriptive and narrative. The curriculum highlights that the students have to be able to write various types of the text genres, one of them is descriptive text.

Based on the writer's observations in Yayasan Pendidikan El Hidayah Madrasah Tsanawiyah Desa Lalang Sunggal, it was found that the students'

achievement in writing Descriptive Text is still low. It can be seen from the table below:

**Table 1.1 Students' Average Score in Two Semesters**

Semester	Students' Number (n)	Average $\bar{X}$
I	25	58,44
II	25	64,96

From table 1.1, it can be seen that the students' average score did not reach the minimum score which is stipulated by the school, which is 70. In semester 1, the students' average is 58,44. It did not reach the minimum score. While in the second semester, there is an improvement which is unfortunately not really significant. They got 64,96. From the above, students' achievement to write descriptive text was very less because they get the material poorly, the way of the material given by the teacher is unclear for them, limited vocabulary, and grammar of them, and lack of confidence in expressing their ideas. Based on the average, It can be concluded that there must be something done toward the teaching method. The researcher offered the technique that was the implementation at the students centered learning and the development of cooperative learning that is Group Investigation Technique.

Group Investigation Technique is a general classroom organization plan in which students work in small groups using cooperative inquiry, group discussion, and cooperative planning and project (Sharan and Sharan, in Slavin, 1995). In this technique, students are actively involved during the class. The topic are divided

into individual tasks. Then they are to make report based on their given activity such as doing observation about the topic, environment investigation, etc. Later, each group is to present or display its findings to the entire class. One remarkable study by Sharan and Sharan, in Slavin, (1995 ) found large positive effects on students' achievement.

The effectiveness of Group Investigation Technique has been tested by Benget R. Sardi Sijinjak (2012) resulted that teaching writing Group Investigation Technique is more effective than teaching writing Four Square Technique. The use of Group Investigation Technique improved the students' achievement in writing narrative text.

Since Sijinjak (2012) has successful in doing his research the writer tries to investigate the effectiveness of using Group Investigation technique in different genre that is descriptive text. So, this research will use Group Investigation as a technique to improve students' achievement in writing descriptive text to solve the problem that was found in grade VIII of Yayasan Pendidikan El Hidayah Madrasah Tsanawiyah Desa Lalang Sunggal.

## **B. The Problem of the Study**

Based on the background of the study above, it is necessary to formulate the problem of this research as: "is the students' achievement in writing descriptive text improved if they are taught by using Group Investigation Technique?"

### **C. The Objective of the Study**

The objective of the study is to find out whether Group Investigation Technique significantly improve students' writing achievement in descriptive text.

### **D. The Scope of the Study**

The scope of the study is limited on investigating of second year students of Junior High School focused on improving students' achievement in writing descriptive text especially the description of person through group investigation technique.

### **E. The Significance of the Study**

The finding of this study is important and useful for:

- 1) The teachers to improve his knowledge on teaching technique for then implementing this study to improve the students' writing competence.
- 2) The students to improve their achievement in writing descriptive text and to work in group actively and improve their leadership in group discussion and group presentation.
- 3) Other researchers who might feel interested and are concerning on teaching learning process.